In the Claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A folding passenger seat for a work vehicle with a seat member which is pivotal from a lowered seated position to upper storage position, characterized by:

a guide mounted on a body of the vehicle, the guide extending upwardly and rearwardly from a rear portion of the seat member;

a bearing mechanism attached to the rear portion of the seat member, the bearing mechanism being slidable in the guide, the seat member being pivotal with respect to the guide about an axis of the bearing mechanism so that when the seat member is folded upwardly, the bearing mechanism slides downwardly along the guide and simultaneously rotates relative to the guide.

2. (original) The seat according of claim 1, wherein:

the seat includes a back rest, the seat member engaging the back rest when the seat member is pivoted upward.

3. (currently amended) The seat of claim 2, characterized by:

the guide comprises a first plate and a second plate which are spaced apart and parallel to each other, the plates defining a space therebetween which receives the bearing mechanism when the seat member is lowered.

4. (currently amended) [Vehicle] The seat of claim 1, characterized by:

the guide comprises a first plate and a second plate, the first plate carrying a back rest, the first and second plates being connected to each other with spacers, and [one of] the [first and] second plate[s] being connected to the vehicle body.

5. (original) The seat of claim 4, characterized by:

the first and second plates are parallel to each other and extend in a direction substantially parallel to the back rest.

6. (original) The seat of claim 3, wherein:

the seat member is mounted on a third plate which is substantially parallel to the first and second plates, a portion of the third plate being above portions of the first and the second plate.

7. (original) The seat of claim 6, wherein:

the third plate includes first and second parts, the second part extending at an angle with respect to the first part.

8. (original) The seat of claim 7, wherein:

the second part of the third plate extends generally in the same direction as the seat member.

9. (original) The seat of claim 6, wherein:

the sliding bearing mechanism engages an upper end of the third plate when the seat member is in its seated position.

10. (original) The seat of claim 6, wherein:

the bearing mechanism comprises a pair of horizontally extending pins mounted on opposite sides of the third plate and extending towards each other, the pins having free ends which engage the guide.

11. (original) The seat of claim 7, wherein:

the second plate has first and second legs, the second leg, extending at an angle with respect to the first leg, the second part of the third plate laying above and generally parallel to the second leg of the second plate when the seat member is in the seated position.

12. (currently amended) The seat of claim 11, further comprising:

a locking element projecting from the third plate and towards the second plate, the locking element being received by a central longitudinal slot formed in the second [region] leg of the second plate.

13. (currently amended) The seat of claim 12, wherein:

the locking element comprises a [head] pin which projects from the second plate, an outer end of the [head] pin having dimensions which are larger than a width of the longitudinal slot.

14. (currently amended) The seat of claim 13, wherein:

the longitudinal slot has an enlarged portion through which the [head] outer end of the pin can be inserted and withdrawn.

15. (original) The seat of claim 14, wherein:

the enlarged portion is spaced apart from a bend formed by the first and second legs of the second plate.

16. (original) The seat of claim 6, wherein:

a central slot is formed in the second plate; and

the third plate includes a locking element which is received by the slot.

17. (original) The seat of claim 1, further comprising:

an actuating lever which is pivotal about a pivot axis; and

a spring biased to urge the actuating lever against a underside of the seat member.

18. (currently amended) [Vehicle] The seat of claim 17, characterized by:

a pulley rotatably mounted on the actuating lever and spaced apart from the pivot axis, the pulley rolling along the underside of the seat member when the seat member is pivoted.

19. (original) The seat of claim 17, further comprising:

a handgrip projecting from an end of the actuating lever.

20. (original) The seat of claim 17, wherein:

a pin projects from the underside of the seat member; and

the actuating lever includes a bracket which projects from the actuating lever and towards the seat member, the bracket engaging the pin when the seat member is in a fully erect position.

21. (currently amended) The seat of claim 6, wherein:

the first plate carries a back rest and has a free end which faces away from the back rest, the free end having a central slot formed therein; and

the third plate includes first and second legs, the second leg being attached to the seat member and the second leg projecting away from the first leg, the second leg having a tab which projects therefrom and which is received by the central slot of the first plate, when the seat member is in its storage position.

22. (new) A folding passenger seat for a work vehicle with a seat member which is pivotal from a lowered seated position to upper storage position, characterized by:

the seat includes a back rest, the seat member engaging the back rest when the seat member is pivoted upward;

a guide mounted on a body of the vehicle, the guide comprises a first plate and a second plate which are spaced apart and parallel to each other when the seat member is lowered, the plates defining a space therebetween which receives the bearing mechanism;

the seat member is mounted on a third plate which is substantially parallel to the first and second plates, a portion of the third plate being above portions of the first and the second plate; and

a bearing mechanism attached to a rear portion of the seat member, the bearing mechanism being slidable in the guide, the seat member being pivotal with respect to the guide about an axis of the bearing mechanism so that when the seat member is folded upwardly, the bearing mechanism slides downwardly along the guide and simultaneously rotates relative to the guide, and the sliding bearing mechanism engages an upper end of the third plate when the seat member is in its seated position.

23. (New) A folding passenger seat for a work vehicle with a seat member which is pivotal from a lowered seated position to upper storage position, characterized by:

a guide mounted on a body of the vehicle;

a bearing mechanism attached to a rear portion of the seat member, the bearing mechanism being slidable in the guide, the seat member being pivotal with respect to the guide about an axis of the bearing mechanism so that when the seat member is folded upwardly, the bearing mechanism slides downwardly along the guide and simultaneously rotates relative to the guide;

an actuating lever which is pivotal about a pivot axis; and

a spring biased to urge the actuating lever against an underside of the seat member.

24. (new) A folding passenger seat for a work vehicle with a seat member which is pivotal from a lowered seated position to upper storage position, characterized by:

a guide mounted on a body of the vehicle;

a bearing mechanism attached to a rear portion of the seat member, the bearing mechanism being slidable in the guide, the seat member being pivotal with respect to the guide about an axis of the bearing mechanism so that when the seat member is folded upwardly, the bearing mechanism slides downwardly along the guide and simultaneously rotates relative to the guide, the bearing mechanism being positioned above a level of the seat member when the seat member is in its lowered position, and when the seat member is in its storage position the bearing mechanism having a vertical position which coincides with a vertical position of the bottom of the seat member when the seat member is in its lowered position.